

THE DAILY EXAMINER.

MARCH 24, 1890.

Jacques Cartier.—His Life and Voyages.

LAST year, the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec offered a silver and bronze medal for the best and second best essays on "The Life and Voyages of Jacques Cartier." The essays could be written either in English or French, and the competitors might belong to any nationality. It was the good fortune of Mr. Joseph Pope, a native of our Island, to carry off the first prize in the English section; and his essay is now given to the public in a handsome volume, adorned with all the attractions of good paper, clear type, and a carefully prepared table of reference.

It could hardly be expected that Mr. Pope would succeed in throwing any new light upon the life and voyages of Jacques Cartier; for that is a theme which has been treated lovingly, as it deserved to be treated, by many eminent French writers. Yet, to the credit of the author, it must be said that he has furnished to the English speaking citizens of the Dominion, a clear and interesting narrative of the work of the great explorer, who first told to Europeans the story of the wonderful river and the vast and fertile regions through which it rolled. This a boon of no mean merit; for, it is much to be feared, that the early history of our Dominion is far from being a familiar subject to the rising generation in our public schools you will find history classes perfectly conversant with the kings of the Tudor and Plantagenet lines, with the dates of important treaties and great battles, and still in woeful ignorance of who founded Quebec and Montreal, or who commanded at the battles of Fort Nessicully or Ticonderoga. Mr. Pope has successfully opened one window through which streams for the English speaking Canadian, a clear light on the more recent annals of our country. It is to be hoped that the light will be turned to advantage.

The order observed by Mr. Pope in his essay is such as his theme naturally suggests. In the first chapter, we are presented with a brief sketch of the early voyages to America; then follows a minute description of the three voyages of Cartier, with a final chapter discussing the evidence of a fourth voyage, and detailing the closing events in the life of the great mariner.

At first glance, it might be supposed that the production of a work, such as the one under review, would be a task involving little difficulty. The authenticity of the leading authorities, it could be argued, is beyond a doubt, and a correct interpretation of words and phrases, would be the severest strain laid upon the writer. The careful reader will rise from the perusal of Mr. Pope's essay with a widely different notion. Cartier bestowed on headlands and bays, and Islands, names which, in the course of years, have been changed. He also frequently gave a description of the jutting promontory, and the wide sea opening into the land as they met his view. But even these prominent features of nature have, in the course of centuries, undergone change, by the wear and tear of tempests and other causes, and it is very questionable if Jacques Cartier himself could, at the present day, identify many of the espes and estuaries from the description he wrote of them three centuries ago. A notable instance of the perplexities in which a modern writer may find himself involved, when trying to trace the course of an explorer from a log book written three hundred years ago occurs in the narrative of Cartier's first voyage. For five weeks the persevering explorer, enveloped in mists, and buffeted by storms, had fruitlessly sought along the inhospitable coast of Labrador some passage to the realms of Cathay. For a week he was wrapped in a fog so dense that no observations could be taken. At length he catches a glimpse of land "through darkness and fog."

This cape Mr. Pope identifies as Cape Anguille, on the western coast of Newfoundland. Cartier called it Cape St. John. Laboriously following the changing courses of the ships, our author, from the distances sailed and the incidental descriptions given of the lands they met, furnishes his readers with an excellent tracing of the voyage. The countless flocks of birds that covered some rocks suggested to Cartier the name of the Bird Rocks, which they still bear. On another island, which he named Brion—after his patron, Admiral Chabot—he saw the walrus disporting themselves. Sailing up and down among the Magdalen Islands, he admired their fertility, and pronounced "one of their fields more worth than all the new land." After leaving the Magdalen Islands the ships held a westerly course, and, on the morning of the following day, land—seemingly two Islands—was discovered, lying west-south-west, at a distance of nine or ten leagues. The majority of writers hold that Cartier, after leaving the Magdalen Islands, crossed to New Brunswick. Mr. Pope differs from this opinion, and contends that the land, which appeared to Cartier like two Islands, was no other than Prince Edward Island. The arguments by which Mr. Pope supports this position we shall leave to the readers of his essay to weigh, and content ourselves with saying that his theory is very plausible.

curately than the other with the passage from Hakluyt, quoted on page 45.

The third and fourth chapters of the essay will, we think, prove the most attractive for the bulk of readers. They contain the narrative of Cartier's second voyage. We no longer see the captain steering in and out through scattered Islands and exploring bays running deeply into the land; but, with his three historical ships, we see him directing a bold course along the northern shore of the St. Lawrence, passing the gloomy Saguenay, and braving every risk that might await him in an unexplored river, till at length he lays his three ships, safe and sound, face to face with the majestic rock of Quebec. Nor is this enough, for the great river still rolls down in unabated volume, and the intrepid explorer must see what of it he can. Accordingly, in open boats, he pushes his way up stream till his eyes are greeted with the site, where now stands the city of Montreal. From the wooded summit of the Royal Hill he can still see, to the northwest, the great river rolling down, and he ponders, no doubt, over the possibility of the passage to the Indies lying somewhere in that direction. In the Indian village of Hochelaga he and his associates had been received as beings of a superior order. At their departure, the kindly Indians followed the boats along the shore, as they turned down the stream, carrying their visitors back to their comrades in their fortified camp at the mouth of the Laitet. Then follows the terrible winter of disease and suffering, the cheering return of spring, and the departure for France. All this is charming reading, and in Mr. Pope's narrative not a charm is lost.

We have left ourselves no space to speak of Mr. Pope's account of Cartier's third voyage in conjunction with Roberval, or of the concluding chapter, in which he discusses the evidences of a fourth voyage. But we have said enough to convey to our readers some idea of the merits of this little work. Could Mr. Pope find leisure to do by Champlain the same as he has done by Cartier, and bring to the execution of the task the same diligent research and careful collation, that everywhere marks the work before us, he would establish for himself a claim to the gratitude of the English-speaking subjects of the Dominion.

Notes and Comments.

—It has been seriously proposed in the New York Legislature to reduce the legal interest rate from 6 to 5 per cent., but there is an active opposition to defeat the project.

—The American Banker remarks that not everyone knows that the surest test of genuine paper currency is to hold the bill up to the light, so that you can discern two lines running parallel across its entire length. These are a red and a blue, silk thread inside the paper. No counterfeiter has them.

—A correspondent in Venezuela, South America, writes at the close of February: "I am glad to observe that the question of trade with the West Indies and South America is receiving attention in Canada. There is a wide field for business, and plenty of room for new comers. The United States is only just awakening to her interests. It is true that the trade to be done is enormous, and a good share should be done by Canada."

—Dr. McIntyre, in the House of Commons the other day, in his annual onslaught regarding repairs to Souris Breakwater, tried to leave the impression that he had discovered something wrong in an item for photographs; that the sum of \$52 had been spent on photographs in connection with Souris Breakwater. It is scarcely necessary to say that this flight of his imagination is without foundation in fact. The Department of Public Works, it appears, instructed the engineer in charge of Island works to take photographs of the piers, breakwaters, etc., in this Province for the use and information of the Department, which every sensible man will see was an excellent way of obtaining a knowledge of the works in question between the Local and the Dominion Governments. The engineer did as he was instructed, and in doing so the expenses incurred were \$52, quite a modest sum, we should say, under the circumstances. It is obvious that the M. P. for King's, in his latest effort, is more prompted by animosity to political opponents than by love of the truth.

—Mr. J. W. Hughes has written a letter for THE EXAMINER, the subject of which has, for the most part, been already contributed by our own correspondent. We submit an interesting paragraph which has not yet appeared: "The Academic Hall, in the Ottawa University, was the scene of a pleasant event last Tuesday evening. The stage was tastefully decorated. The occasion was an entertainment given by the students to the citizens of Ottawa, who, through their committee, on that evening, at that time, in the hall, presented the 'varsity football' champions with a solid silver trophy, standing nearly four feet high, beautifully engraved with the emblems of the different Canadian games and the names of the champions forming the team. The presentation was on a grand scale, Mr. P. D. Ross, editor of the Evening Journal, reading the address for the committee in the presence of hundreds of citizens, many of whom were admitted by complimentary tickets—i. e., all donors, clergymen, ministers of the crown, and some M. P.'s were specially invited and occupied reserved seats. Among the names inscribed on this costly urn is that of T. Curran, King's County, P. E. I., of whom all Islanders should feel justly proud. Mr. Curran is a student of the University of Ottawa—a noble specimen of our race and countrymen, holding a place second to none in the championship of Ontario for five years and for the Dominion three years in this game."

FOR THE WEAK AND LANGUID.—Campbell's Beef, Iron and Wine is one of the best tonics, possessing many nutritive and strengthening qualities. It is recommended by the leading medical men. If you are weak and languid a bottle will give instant relief. See that you ask for a d'get Campbell's Beef, Iron and Wine. Now 615 Broadway.

For the newest novelties in Neckwear, call on D. A. Bruce, 167 Queen Street, West, Montreal.

Canada's International Exhibition, 1890.

The Association, which has been incorporated for the purpose of holding exhibitions in St. John, seem determined to give the public the full value of their entrance fee during the forthcoming exhibitions.

We notice that considerable interest in the exhibition has been aroused in the West India Islands, and a very fine collection of the natural products of these Islands will form one of the most attractive features of the Exhibition.

The Association is also making arrangements for a Provincial educational exhibit, in which all the schools will take part, and special recognition of merit will be made in the various grades.

A new departure is being made in having a Marine and Fisheries section, and an endeavor will be made to give the exhibition a character which will associate it with the Maritime Provinces, as distinct from the western fairs.

The general competition being thrown open to the world, is drawing exhibits from the United States and elsewhere, which will give the Exhibition quite an international character.

The Special Attractions Committee are in correspondence with a number of amusement caterers, with a view to securing some novel attractions, which will be incorporated with the Exhibition.

One of the enterprising wholesale houses of St. John have notified the management that they will contribute \$500, for prizes to be awarded to the agricultural section.

Applications for space are now being rapidly filled up, and while there is ample building accommodation, our people would do well to be early in the field.

Indians as Farmers.

THE Commissioner of the North-west Mounted Police, who has good opportunities for observation, reports that the past season has been very unfortunate for Indians living on the reserves, where farming occupied most of their time, as the extremely dry weather has rendered the crops very unsatisfactory. In spite of this many of the bands are working hard and have prepared considerable land for next year. The bands in the vicinity of Regina have supplied a large proportion of police hay, and would have supplied more if a disastrous prairie fire had not occurred. Their hay is the best we have received, and I hope that bands near the other police posts will tender next year. Potatoes are an enormous price all over this year, caused by settlers not paying as much attention to this crop as it deserves, many of the potatoes required for the force could be supplied by Indians who, as a rule, are very successful potato growers.

Y. W. C. A.

THE annual meeting of the Y. W. C. A. was held in the parlour of the Y. M. C. A. on 22nd March. Reports of the work accomplished by the Association during the past year were read and adopted, after which earnest and suggestive addresses were delivered by Judge Hensley and C. Palmer, Esq. The special need of rescue work was particularly enforced by the latter gentleman. Rev. Mr. Sutherland was also present and expressed his sympathy with the work of the society. Interesting conversation on the missions to jail and poor house, working of Mother's Meetings, Young Women's Bible Class and Prayer meetings was held, and officers for the coming year were elected. We trust the year upon which we have entered will be one fruitful of good works. M. C. DAVIES, Sec'y.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Mails—A Complaint From the Capital.

SIR,—The unfortunate Islanders whose lot it is to be exiled in the Capital, would be pleased to learn some tidings of their native land. It is now four days since any mail was received thence, and the latest newspaper dates on record are as follows: EXAMINER and Patriot, March 11; Guardian, March 7; Herald, March 12; Journal and Farmer, March 6; Pioneer and Agriculturist, March 10. We receive St. John and Halifax papers regularly in less than 36 hours after publication. Is there not something astray with your mail arrangements? How is it that your dailies do not come with every mail which arrives? How is it that so many of your papers never reach here at all? We think ourselves quite fortunate if we get four out of each week's series, and these only when nearly a week old. Some of us have been thinking of getting the matter brought before Parliament.

PUNCH.

Ottawa, March 19, 1890.

Personal.

It is stated that General Lord Wolsely will be appointed commander-in-Chief of the forces in Ireland.

The Pioneer reports that Rev. C. W. Hamilton, of Summerside, who has been ill of typhoid fever for some time past, is slowly recovering.

Local Notices.

Special line of new Trousers and Suitings will be sold very low to cash buyers. Call and see them at D. A. Bruce's. 16—mh24

A choice line of spring overcoats and suitings just received at McLeod & McKenzie's.

Step in and examine our spring wear in overcoats and suitings at McLeod and McKenzie's.

A Starter—an eye opener—comes and see seven cases of new boots and shoes opened for the first time, and which we will sell at invoice prices. Come early in the day so as to avoid the rush.—Goff Bros.

Beer & Goff have some very fine apples for sale by the barrel, suitable for retailing or for family use. mar22 2i

Spring Repairing.—We are prepared with a nice line of covering to re-cover furniture and do general repairing at low prices.—Mark Wright & Co. mar22 2w

Go to Beer & Goff's for choice eating and cooking apples. mar22 2i

Ladies new spring Hats and Bonnets, just opened at J. B. Macdonald's. mar22 3i

Special prices this evening at the Dominion Store and Show Rooms. mar21 1i

MARRIED.—At New Perth, on March 18, by Rev. W. H. Spencer, William Murdoch McLeod, of Orwell, to Miss Christina Shaw, eldest daughter of Robert Shaw, Esq., of New Perth.

Y. M. C. A. THE GRAND CONCERT under the direction of Mr. H. W. Vinnicombe, in aid of the Young Men's Christian Association, will take place in the Association Hall, On Thursday Evening Next, THE 27th OF MARCH.

Doors open at 7.30. Concert to commence at 8 o'clock. Admission, 25 cents; no half price. R. M. BARRATT, Secretary.

Y. M. L. A. ST. JAMES' CHURCH. The Fifth Annual Course of Lectures.

REV. J. A. GORDON will deliver a lecture in ST. JAMES' HALL, on Tuesday Evening, March 24th, AT EIGHT O'CLOCK.

Subject, "Wit and Humor, Laughter and Tears." mch24

FOR SALE. A Good Chance, as I am Going West.

I OFFER FOR SALE my Freehold Property, situated on Fitzroy Street, and measuring 6 1/2 feet on Fitzroy Street, and running back 160 feet, with two Double Houses thereon, good front-proof cellar, with large Yard and Garden, and Stables and Coach House, all in good repair. This is a good paying property, as the Houses are always occupied. Apply to PATRICK SHERRY, On the premises.

Notice to Debtors. All persons indebted to me, either by mortgage notes or book account, are requested to settle their amounts on or before the 1st of December next. After that date they will be handed in to my attorney for collection. PATRICK SHERRY. mch24—dy eod wky tf

CABINET MAKING. FURNITURE Repaired and Upholstered; Patterns and Models made to order; Shop Fitting and General Jobbing. Orders solicited. Corner Pownall and Grafton Streets, one door west of Fish Market. R. D. PYKE. mch24—3i pd

FOR SALE. Bourke's Farm, Mount Stewart.

THIS FARM, adjoining the Railway Station, is for sale, as a whole or in parcels. Terms—One-third cash; balance on terms to suit purchasers, at interest. Apply to the subscriber, at Palmer & McLeod's office, or to Mr. Bourke, at Mount Stewart, who has plan of property. M. McLEOD. march24—1w

LUMBER, At Public Auction.

WE are instructed to sell on the OLD EXHIBITION GROUNDS, near Government House, by Public Auction, On Tuesday Next, March 25th, Commencing at 2 o'clock, p. m., All the LUMBER in the Old Exhibition Buildings, consisting of BOARDS, SCANTLING, etc., will be offered in sections to suit purchasers. Terms Cash. E. H. NORTON & CO., Auctioneers. mch20—dw

Molasses and Sugar, NEW CROP, Direct Cargo due here first opening of Navigation. 350 Puncheons MOLASSES, 50 Tierces Choice Quality, 40 Barrels 300 Barrels SUGAR, At lowest current rates while landing. CARVELL BROS. mch21—2w 2aw pat

Electrical Gas Lighters. NO oily wires; no matches; no danger; anyone can use it; instantaneous. The most convenient apparatus for the purpose. Will light a burner 100 feet away. Each instrument a fixture. No springs to break and no points to blacken, as in other machines. Satisfaction guaranteed. FRID E. MORRIS, Electrician, Corner Queen and Water Streets, City. mch20

We have placed on our centre counters a large number of Odds and Ends from different departments, which we purpose closing out at extremely low prices to make room for Spring arrivals. You are invited to call and examine the goods and prices. BEER BROS.

Clearance Sale of Boots and Shoes for 20 Days

FOR THE NEXT TWENTY DAYS I will sell for the BEST PRICES OBTAINABLE, all the Stock of BOOTS AND SHOES, &c., in the Store of MR. JAMES B. HALL, Fraser's Corner, Queen Street, Charlottetown. The Stock comprises Men's, Boys', Women's, Misses' and Children's BOOTS, SHOES, RUBBERS, &c., and other Stock generally kept in a first-class Boot and Shoe Store. SAMUEL HALL, MORTGAGEE. Ch'town, March 22, 1890—dy 1w pd

THE SCRUTINY!

THE OFFICIAL COUNT IS MADE, and the Returning Officers have declared it as the unanimous verdict of the People that the place to secure Bargains in Men's Clothing, Furnishings, Hats and Caps, is at D. A. BRUCE'S.

To make room for the largest and finest stock of goods ever handled by us, which will begin to arrive soon for the coming Spring Season, we offer the balance of WINTER GOODS at prices that withers competition. Remnants of Odds and Ends at prices to suit you. D. A. BRUCE, Queen Street. Ch'town, Feb. 18, 1890—eod & wky

"A GRAND TIMEKEEPER!" Is what one of our Customers said the other day when he left his

Rockford Watch to be cleaned after wearing it constantly for nearly four years, and without costing him a cent. A few Rockfords left; also Waltham and Elgin Watches. Prices reasonable. E. W. TAYLOR, CAMERON BLOCK. Charlottetown, Feb. 25, 1890—2aw wky

SPECIAL SALE!

WE ARE OFFERING A SPECIAL LOT OF 75 Suit Lengths of Tweeds, —AT FROM— 20 TO 30 PER CENT. DISCOUNT ON REGULAR PRICES. Call and examine Stock and get prices. The Best Bargains ever offered. JOHN McLEOD & CO. Charlottetown, March 22, 1890.

TO THE TRADE.

Wholesale Stock of Furniture. Chairs, Bedsteads, Lounges, Bedroom and Parlor Sets, Tables, Hall Stands, &c.

HAVING an extensive and well-equipped Factory, we are in a position to offer to the Trade of this Island FURNITURE at prices that will compete with outside manufacturers, and we solicit a share of the Spring orders. MARK WRIGHT & CO. Charlottetown, March 14, 1890—dy 2aw wky